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Mancuso replaces city administrator; cites need for better working relationship

Mayor Fred J. Mancuso has announced the appointment of Joseph Masco as acting city managing director. He replaces Peter Judge who served in that capacity since 1978.

Judge, 101 Williams Avenue, Carbondale, was terminated from the position last Friday by Mayor Mancuso.

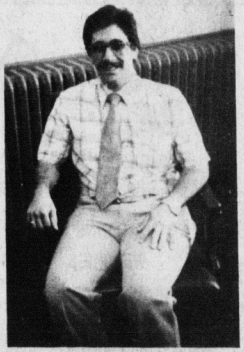
The Mayor said, "My decision to replace Peter Judge was based on my desire to establish "[illegible]er working relationship with those re[illegible]sible for the day-to-day operations of the city. Having appointed Judge to the post of managing director in an acting capacity in 1978, I have tried to maintain a flexibility in the association between the mayor and the managing director. However, it became apparent that our views on what duties and responsibilities the managing director's position entails differ and in recent months this has strained that relationship resulting in an adverse effect on the city. Judge has performed in accordance with his abilities and I wish him well in his future endeavors, but I felt it necessary that a change be made at this time. In making this transition, I am exercising the authority granted me under our city Home Rule Charter, which empowers the mayor to remove and appoint a managing director."

Masco, 103 Fallbrook Street, served as Director of Finance until his appointment to the managing director's position. Previously Masco served as Financial Analyst for the city Community Development Program. He holds a bachelor of science degree in accounting from Penn State University.

In naming Masco to the position of managing director, Mayor Mancuso said, "I believe Joe is superbly qualified to serve the city in this capacity. As Director of Finance he has been directly involved in one of the most integral parts of our municipal operation and despite declining revenues and increasing costs which have affected our city he has maintained our fiscal integrity.

"He has worked closely with Judge and has been instrumental in preparing our budgets. He is familiar with all department and their operations and I believe his educational background and experience as finance director will allow him to closely monitor these departments and bring them to a greater efficiency. In addition, Joe has established an excellent working relationship with the heads of the various city departments as well as our municipal employees.

"I believe that through Joe my policies will be implemented in the manner in which they are intended. I have complete confidence in his ability to not only implement those policies and work with me, but to manage the important day-to-day operations of our city. These are trying times for Carbondale, as they are for all communities, and the task of managing the city is not an easy one. It calls for an association of trust, confidence, and open communication between me, as mayor, and the city managing director whom I must rely on to see that the job is done. With Joe at the helm, I hope to have such an association. And I think that will result in a much better municipal operation."



Acting Director Joseph Masco